

Appl. No. : 09/993,874
Filed : November 14, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the first paragraph on page 1 as follows. Insertions are shown underlined while deletions are ~~struck through~~.

This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 09/516,958, filed Mar. 1, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application Ser. No. 09/388,290, filed Sep. 1, 1999, now abandoned, which claims priority to Italian application IT199800000195, filed Sep. 2, 1998, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.